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New York Mayor Edward I. Koch on Tuesday dedicated part of First Avenue across from the United Nations in honor of Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat credited with rescuing thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis.

Raoul Wallenberg Walk will serve as a reminder of a "modern saint," Koch said. He called on Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, "as a merciful measure, as a break with the past, to himself make an inquiry and, if Raoul Wallenberg is alive, to free him."

Wallenberg's story was told this week in a two-part television drama on NBC. A Swedish aristocrat, he worked in Hungary in the last year of World War II to save Jews there and then was arrested by the Soviets.

The Soviet Union said he died in prison in 1947, but other prisoners reported seeing him in later years.

Koch called upon his listeners to send postcards to the Soviet Consulate inscribed with a simple question: "Where is Raoul Wallenberg?"

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

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